

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

TAKAKURA et al.

Appln. No.: 09/841,553

Date Filed: April 24, 2001

For: ULTRATHERMOSTABLE PROTEASE)

GENES...

Art Unit: 1652

Examiner: M. Rao

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NOV 0 6 2003

Confirmation No. 4153

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

AMENDMENT

Honorable Commissioner for Patents U.S. Patent and Trademark Office 2011 South Clark Place Customer Window, Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1803 Arlington, Virginia 22202

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of August 7, 2003, please amend as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.